

By: Ellis

S.B. No. 505

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

1
2 relating to mentor-protege programs used by certain state agencies
3 for historically underutilized businesses.

4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

5 SECTION 1. Section 2161.065, Government Code, is amended to
6 read as follows:

7 Sec. 2161.065. MENTOR-PROTEGE PROGRAM. (a) The
8 commission shall design a mentor-protege program to foster
9 long-term relationships between mentors [~~prime contractors~~] and
10 historically underutilized businesses to provide professional
11 guidance and support to the businesses to facilitate their
12 development and growth and to increase their [~~the~~] ability [~~of~~
13 ~~historically underutilized businesses~~] to contract with the state
14 or to receive subcontracts under a state contract. Each state
15 agency with a biennial appropriation that exceeds \$10 million shall
16 implement the program designed by the commission.

17 (b) Participation in the program must be voluntary for both
18 the mentor [~~contractor~~] and the historically underutilized
19 business [~~subcontractor~~].

20 (c) The commission may not require a mentor under the
21 mentor-protege program to be a registered bidder on the
22 commission's centralized master bidders list.

23 SECTION 2. This Act takes effect September 1, 2003.